

HALL CASE JARS PLACID SOMERVILLE INTO FEVERISH BUSINESS BOOM

Jersey's Dayton Seizes Chance to Gain by Trial

By LEO J. CASEY
(GRAPHIC Staff Correspondent)

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Oct. 6.—Swept from the placid waters of its usual rural complacency, which even the turbulent eddies of the Hall-Mills murder and subsequent investigations had but slightly disturbed, Somerville at last has been caught in a head tide of excitement as the date of the first trial in the four-year-old crime approaches.

For the slayings of the Rev. Edward Hall and Mrs. Eleanor Mills, the clergyman's widow, Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall, and her brothers, Willie and Henry Stevens, go on trial November 3. Henry Carpenter, a cousin, also indicted for murder, faces a jury later.

For a long time this little community refused to appear very much concerned over the sensational crime.

Somerville on Edge

Like night riders on the trail of their victim, detectives and reporters thundered through the streets, but the broad, elm-bordered lanes refused to be shaken from their somnolence.

At midnight the wealthy Mrs. Hall was thrown into jail. Somerville blinked but recovered.

The arrests of Willie Stevens and Carpenter followed. Then came the grand jury indictments, the arrest of the other brother, and the arraignments.

Somerville was awakening, but the tradition of Sleepy Hollow still held sway.

All this is over now, however, and New Jersey's Dayton is preparing for its hour in the sun.

From the basement of the courthouse the sound of hammer and saw, as telegraph instruments are installed, tell the community that next month will see Somerville linked with the entire world.

In the courthouse alone will be forty telegraph operators on duty day and night to flash news of the trial. In hotels, homes and garages near by are still other wires.

Perfect Service

The telegraph switchboard to be used is the same giant instrument which was in operation at the Dempsey-Tunney fight in the Sesqui-centennial stadium.

These perfections of modern science are set up against relics of revolutionary days. In the same basement where the telegraph keys will click are dusty old trunks bulging with records of bygone days.

Guarding them while reporters use the space will be one Bill Moore, 70-year-old janitor of the Somerset county jail.

The genial old Irishman warrants the treasures will be safe with him, and to prove his assertion tells the story of the time, twenty years ago, when he blocked the escape of three desperate criminals.

Moore that day walked calmly up and down in front of a hole the convicts had bored in the prison wall with an empty shotgun over his shoulder. The convicts stayed inside.

Rents are soaring as the great newspapers of the country and many smaller ones seek temporary offices.

Houses which rented for \$50 and \$75 a month are finding tenants at \$300 to \$400 for the first week of the trials and \$100 a week thereafter.

Evidence of the real estate boom is seen in the difficulty Mrs. Henry

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Back to the House of Commons



AFTER A VISIT to her American birthplace in Virginia, Lady Astor (center) returns aboard the Aquitania today to Britain and her duties as a woman M. P., accompanied by Mrs. L. L. Abbott (left) and Dr. John H. Finley, formerly president of City College (right).

Marie Faced Death in War, Says Lady Astor, Sailing

Lady Nancy Astor sailed for her British home today on the Aquitania. With Mrs. L. L. Abbott, of Lynchburg, Va., her old home, and Miss Elizabeth Brown, of New York, she occupied unpretentious quarters on C deck.

She paid a glowing tribute to Queen Marie of Rumania.

Overcome, Hangs Unconscious Atop 220-Foot Chimney

Slumped across the top of a chimney rising 220 feet in the air, Walter Carver, 23, of 320 Lafayette St., Newark, N. J., lay gassed and unconscious for several hours while hundreds of pedestrians passed unaware below.

Carver had been doing a job for the Irvington Smelting and Refining Company in Irvington when sulphuric acid fumes coming up the chimney from the smelter overpowered him and he fell across the opening.

A pedestrian happened to look up and saw his plight.

Police climbed the iron ladder outside the chimney, bound the steeplejack, and started to lower him by a stout rope.

When the unconscious man was still some distance from the ground the rope was found too short. More was obtained and spliced to the first length; then Carver was lowered and rushed to Irvington Hospital, where today he is reported recovering.

THRILL RIDE MAIMS GIRL

DETROIT.—After riding for about 100 yards on the front bumper of an automobile in search of a thrill, Freda Langlois, 18, lost her balance and fell to the pavement, the car passing over her body and inflicting a fractured jaw, a broken leg and arm, and cuts about her head and shoulders.

Hunt Dickman Affidavit As State Pushes Probe Of Bribery in Hall Case

By JACK MILEY
(GRAPHIC Staff Correspondent)

SOMERVILLE, N. J., Oct. 6.—While detectives ransack Jersey's state archives today in their frantic search for the lost report of former Trooper Henry L. Dickman, it is expected that Special Prosecutor Simpson, as a sequel to the mystery, will ask the indictment of a stellar member of the Hall defense counsel.

For the first time in either investigation of the four-year-old crime the state has made public evidence which tends to link a defense attorney with the intimidation of an important witness.

William Phillips, a watchman, who claims he saw a woman resembling Mrs. Frances S. Hall entering the Hall home a few hours after the murder of Dr. Hall and Mrs. Mills, charges that Timothy N. Pfeiffer, a Hall-Stevens lawyer, gave to reporters information derogatory to Phillips's character.

Accuses Pfeiffer

Phillips told Inspector John J. Underwood yesterday that Felix Di Martini, a Hall private detective, told him that Pfeiffer was the man who had painted him as an ex-convict in the newspapers.

Phillips also said that after he had refused to sign a statement in the office of Russell Watson, a Hall attorney, he had lost his job at the New Jersey State Women's College.

Watson, who handles the legal

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GRAPHIC to Cover Hall-Mills Trial Completely

To insure its readers of news of every development in the Hall-Mills case, The GRAPHIC is now occupying, and has been for some time, an entire floor of the county hotel, which overlooks the courthouse.

The hotel has been converted into a miniature replica of The GRAPHIC editorial rooms.

Leased wires wait to carry to this newspaper's readers each detail in the trial, insuring the best coverage.

WHISKY IN COFFIN

BOSTON, Oct. 6 (By U. P.).—Customs officers while searching the steamship President Hayes for contraband, peered into a coffin and found seventeen bottles of Scotch whisky.

She Never Came Back

(Thirty years ago the first purchaser of a Tecla gem was told:

"If you can distinguish between Tecla and real ocean gems, or are dissatisfied in any way with your purchase bring it back."

She Never Came Back.

The same Tecla Quality, the same perfect image of genuine Oriental pearls obtains today.

The first replacement that has occurred since the establishment of this historic house is now possible through the recent discovery at the Tecla Paris Laboratory permitting a saving of time in creation.

Now a sixteen inch Tecla necklace

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